

PROVINCIAL.—A new church (St. Jude's) is in course of erection at Southsea, from designs by Mr. T. E. Owen. It is decorated in style, with nave 90 feet by 30; two aisles, each 75 feet by 15; and a chancel 33 feet by 27. There will be a tower at the S.E. angle of the nave, with spire, together 150 feet in height. The structure will be of flint, with Caen stone windows and dressings, and an open timber roof 60 feet high (internally) from floor to point of ceiling. The church will contain seats for 1,000 persons, 340 free.—The chief stone of new Kingswood school, Bath, for sons of Wesleyan ministers, was laid on Thursday week, at Lansdown-hills.—The memorial window in honour of the late Queen Dowager, lately subscribed for at Worcester, &c., is now proposed to be put up at the east end of the new church to be erected at North Malvern.—St. Peter's Church, Bedford, enlarged in 1846, is already too small for the parishioners, and another enlargement is to be made by subscription.—The Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Shelf, consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon on Friday week before last, has been erected and endowed mainly by the family of Mr. Hardy, late M.P. for Bradford. The design was by Messrs. Malleson and Healey, of Bradford and Halifax, architects, and is in the Early Gothic Decorated style.—The masons of Blackburn have struck work for an advance of 6d. a-day in their wages.—The Sunderland Docks were opened on Thursday week. The length of the portion just opened is stated at 2,000 feet, average breadth 440, covering in all, 18½ acres. A spacious tidal harbour has been formed. The dock entrance is 60 feet wide; depth of water at quays, 20 feet; in middle, 24 feet. Length of quays in dock, 5,248 feet; in half-tide basin, 1,026 feet. The dock will contain 260 vessels; half-tide basin, 38. The cost of works yet to complete, viz., sea outlet, piers, and tidal basin, is stated at 60,000l.; the whole to be finished in about two years.—The Mayor of Norwich, Mr. Woodcock, having presented to the city a turret-clock (illuminated) for the Guildhall, and the council having called for designs for a turret to receive it, five architects (Messrs. Brown, Bunn, Glover, Kitton, and Kerr) submitted designs, and the decision was given unanimously in favour of a design by the latter, who has therefore received instructions to carry out the work.—The Scotsman is advocating the establishment of a National Museum in Edinburgh.—A new Dominican friary is in course of erection at Cork. It is Italian, with a campanile 100 feet high.

PURUIT OF ART UNDER SINGULAR DIFFICULTIES.—A self-taught artist named Carter has recently died at Coggeshall, Essex, where he had for many years resided. He was originally a farm labourer, and by accident lost the power of every part of his body but the head and neck. By the force of perseverance and an active mind, however, he acquired the power of drawing and painting, by holding the pencil between his lips and teeth, when placed there by the kind offices of an affectionate sister. In this manner he has not only whiled away the greater part of fourteen years of almost utter physical helplessness, but has actually produced works which have met with high commendation. His groups and compositions are said to have been "most delicately worked and highly finished." The poor fellow had contemplated the preparation of some grand work for the International Exhibition, but the little of physical life remaining in him was lately extinguished by a new accident. The best of his art-productions would surely be worth a place in the Industrial Exhibition even independently of anything like art-merit.

WESTMINSTER BRIDGE.—The trustees are applying to Parliament for power to erect a temporary bridge, in case the old bridge become so dangerous as to prevent traffic crossing it altogether, till either repaired or rebuilt. The arches, it appears, are still sinking, as they have continued to do during the last six months, or rather for years, at intervals. Sir R. Inglis deprecated the idea of any further attempt to repair the present structure, as the committee appointed four years ago had found that the foundations were originally vicious, and could never be made sound. Yet it was still proposed to repair it at an expense of 70,000l., while, of 360,000l. required for a new

bridge, 100,000l. would be furnished by the Bridge Estate Fund.—In the third report of the committee of the Commons alluded to, dated 5th August, 1846, the first resolution states, "That the majority of the witnesses who have been examined on the point, concur in the statement that the foundation of Westminster-bridge having been originally vicious, the bridge can never be permanently sound." Now, as the majority of witnesses comprised the first civil engineering talent, it is somewhat odd that such opinion should go for nothing; and that in June 1850, without any subsequent report, a Bill should be introduced "to build and maintain a temporary bridge during the repairs of the present structure." It perhaps may be, that as, by the erection of a temporary bridge, an opportunity will be afforded of viewing the new palace from a more distant point, after all, the new structure (for repairing the "vicious" old bridge is out of the question) will start from the wharfs north of the Board of Control, thus carrying a new line of road by Charles-street into St. James's-park, relieving Great George-street of much of its traffic, and leaving it more free as an approach from the Park to the Houses of Parliament, at the same time giving an opportunity for clearing away the mass of old dilapidated buildings lying between Charles-street and Downing-street as a proper site for the Records, being in immediate connection with the State Paper Office, and the principal Government offices. This plan seems to possess many advantages, and the injury done to property in Bridge-street would be comparatively trifling. It is understood the south side of Bridge-street is to be removed for the New Palace-yard quadrangle, the houses on the north side thus becoming far more valuable as private or official residences.—A. Z.

BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY OF ARTS AND SCHOOL OF DESIGN.—The annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of this institution was held on Friday in last week, when the committee's report was read, congratulating the subscribers on the progress and prospects made. The number of students during the previous month was 514, of whom 149 were young women. Appeal was made to the paintings and drawings exhibited on the walls as evidence of progress. The committee also specially noticed a design by one of the students for a table to be electrotyped in silver for Prince Albert and placed in the International Exhibition. The meeting was a numerous one, and various appropriate addresses were delivered and resolutions passed in support of the society and its objects.

SIX HUNDRED NEW CHURCHES.—The commissioners inquiring into the practicability of subdividing the more populous parishes into separate parishes of 4,000 souls, report that an immediate and pressing demand exists for 600 new churches, at a cost of 2,000,000l. "Some not needing to be very capacious or expensive, might be estimated at an average of 3,500l. each, the total being 2,100,000l." The commissioners propose the sale of advowsons in the gift of the chancellorship, to provide means for proceeding with the work.

IMPROVEMENT IN BLASTING.—A cartridge tube of water-proof paper, made of a conical or sugar-loaf form, has been used at Philadelphia by a Mr. Speakman, for insertion into the usual blast hole, in order to ensure a greater breadth of effect. Rammed in with earth, and fired, the force of the wedge-like mass of powder is said to take a lateral direction, and to yield double execution compared with the old operation of tamping.

STATE PAPERS.—We are glad to learn that at a recent meeting of the Commissioners for Publishing State Papers, they came to the resolution of publishing accurate calendars of the domestic papers in this noble collection during the reigns of Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth;—and, moreover, that they have unanimously entrusted the editorship of this national work to Mr. R. Lemon.

THE WEST LONDON LITERARY INSTITUTION, CHELSEA, contemplates the erection of a lecture hall, &c. An eligible site having presented itself, the council propose to raise 2,000l. in 400 loan shares of 5l. each, to bear interest, and to be in the nature of an equitable charge upon the building itself; such shares to be paid in monthly instalments of 10s. per share, until paid up.

STEEL AND IRON.—In the history of a penny-half-penny foreign file, the *Manchester Courier* gives some curious particulars on the subject of foreign competition in steel and iron. The file was bought in a Birmingham retail shop, though made in Germany. A file-maker in Birmingham said he could not make it for anything like the money. One of the largest file manufacturers in Sheffield "could not possibly make even 1,000 dozen of them for less than 2s. 6d. a dozen, or 2½d. each."—A demand for British iron seems to be springing up in Spain. Madrid is setting the example by sending over for pipes, pumping engines, and machinery, for new water-works about to be established, to supersede the old water-carriers by a plentiful supply from the river Lozoya. Mining implements of British manufacture are also in demand.—The price of iron in the manufacturing districts is likely to be still further reduced, notwithstanding recent limitations of make.

NAMES OF STREETS.—The Genoese have found out, before ourselves, the folly of calling a street New-street; but they have not very wisely corrected it by naming one of their last New-street, — Strada Nuovissima. Upon this principle they must call the next street they build Newer-than-all-street, or Extremely-new-street, or New-of-the-very-newest-description-street. They seem to have no idea of calling their streets, as we do, after the names of obscure builders and proprietors—a very dull custom and idle piece of vanity, especially in a country that abounds in great names. The streets of a metropolis ought to exhaust the whole nomenclature of great men, national or otherwise, before it begins with bricklayers.—*Autobiography of Leigh Hunt.*

REMOVAL OF A WAREHOUSE.—The wholesale removal of a large warehouse was achieved last week at Cardiff. Messrs. Grant, timber merchants, having lately had occasion to enlarge their premises, found it necessary to remove their bonded warehouse a distance of about one hundred feet. Instead of accomplishing the task by taking the whole asunder and shifting it stick by stick, in the old style, the entire pile was the other day at once removed, with great ease, and without extracting a single nail, by raising the whole warehouse on rollers and propelling it by massive chains.

HALL OF ASSEMBLY FOR WEST-END.—A capacious music or assembly hall has been projected for erection in Langham-place, Regent-street, on the site of the carriage repository adjoining All Soul's Church. The cost is estimated at 20,000l. to 25,000l. including purchase of lease, &c. A plan of the building, by Mr. W. A. Boultin, architect, has been lithographed for private circulation.

CHOLERIC EFFECTS OF CESSPOOL AND SEWER EMANATIONS.—At Newport, Monmouthshire, a coroner's jury has just returned a verdict, to the effect that the death of a woman, who was seized with all the symptoms of cholera during the cleansing of a cesspool, "was caused by inhaling the sulphuretted hydrogen gas emitted from the contents of the pool,"—a clear enough index to the nature of one at least of the causes at work in towns with defective sewerage, during the prevalence of cholera in hot seasons.

TENDERS

Delivered to the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers for sewers in Westminster, agreeable to advertisement in our paper of the 15th inst.

Johnson	£9,900
Smith and Pierce	8,500
Hill	7,000
Humphreys and Thurst (accepted)	7,900

For the erection of a chapel at St. Mary Cray, Kent;

Mr. R. M. Phillips, architect	
C. Townsend (St. Mary Cray)	£1,236
W. Peck	9,010
Cooper and Davis	3,950
W. Biggs	3,995
John Carter	3,492
W. Harding (Fulham)	3,428
J. Faithfull	3,772
G. May	3,718
John Young	3,694
Walker and Super	3,136
John Goodwin (Lewisham)	2,976
James Barker	2,674

For three warehouses to be erected in Queen-street; Mr. John Griffiths, architect.

Jay	£9,613
Piper	8,790
Ashty	8,746
Locke and Nesham	8,500
Haines	8,300
Tregg	6,180
Grumadi	7,983
Bryne	7,667